Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00

L-03 DLOS-04 OFA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 ACDA-05 COME-00

INT-05 NSF-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

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TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, PLOS, XV

SUBJ: ANTARCTICA AND SRI LANKA AT 30TH UNGA

REFS: STATE 187746; USUN 3600 (NOTAL); USUN 3639 (NOTAL)

1. THE STATEMENTS BY PERMREP AMBASSADOR AMERASINGHE (SRI LANKA) TO THE 30TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING APARGRAPHS ON ANTARCTICA: QUOTE. THERRE ARE STILL AREAS OF THIS PLANET WHERE OPPORTUNITIES REMAIN FOR CONSTRUCTIVE AND PEACE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUL COOPERATION ON THE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR

THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL RATHER THAN FOR THE BENEFIT OF A FEW. SUCH AN AREA IS THE ANTARTIC CONTINENT. WHILE WE WOULD REFRAIN AT THIS STAGE FROM COMMENTING ON THE ATTITUDES OF STATES REGARDING THE LEGAL STATUS OF THIS LAST DARK CONTINENT OR PORTIONS OF IT, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT THERE ARE VAST POSSIBILITIES FOR A NEW INITIATIVE THAT WOULD REDOUNT TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND. ANTARCTICA IS AN AREA WHERE THE NOW WIDELY ACCEPTED IDEAS AND CON-CEPTS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. WITH THEIR SPECIAL STRESS ON THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUITABLE SHARING OF THE WORLD'S RESOURCES, CAN FIND AMPLE SCOPE FOR APPLICATION, GIVEN THE COOPERATION AND GOODWILL OF THOSE WHO HAVE SO FAR BEEN ACTIVE IN THAT AREA. IT MAY BE NOTED THAT THE ANTARCTICA TREATY OF 1959 WAS DESIGNED SOLELY TO PRESERVE THE AREA EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACE-FUL PURPOSES, TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE CONDUCT OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TO PREVENT THE CONTI-NENT FROM BECOMING THE SCENE OR OBJECT OF INTERNATIONA DISCORD. OUR REFERENCE TO THE RESOURCES OF THIS CONTINENT SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO HINDER THE PRO-GRAMMES OF SCOENTIFIC RESEARCH THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN IN-STITUTED OR THAT MAY BE INSTITUTED IN THE FUTURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY. AT THE SAME TIME I SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE QUESTION OF THE STATUS OF ANTARCTICA IS IN NO WAY LINKED WITH THE ISSUES BEFORE THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE AND, THEREFORE, THIS QUESTION SHOULD NOT DELAY AGREEMENT ON A NEW CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA. THE MENTION OF THIS SUBJEC WILL NOT, I HOPE, CREATE A FLUTTER IN ANY DOVECOTES. END QUOTE.

2. AT THIS TIME THE AGENDA OF THE 30TH UNGA DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY ITEM RELATING TO ANTARCTICA. BENNETT

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